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## CHAPTER 30

# THE TERRITORIES OF AUSTRALIA

The internal Territories of Australia are the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. External Territories under the control of Australia are: Norfolk Island; the Territory of Heard and McDonald Islands; the Australian Antarctic Territory; the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands; and the Territory of Christmas Island. There is also the Territory of Ashmore and Cartier Islands, deemed to form part of the Northern Territory.

Information on all Territories except Ashmore and Cartier Islands is contained in the following pages, and details of the acquisition of all the Territories will be found on pages 5, 22, and 23 of Chapter 1. More detailed statistics and additional descriptive matter are to be found in the Annual Reports of the Administrations of the various Territories and in the *Northern Territory Statistical Summary* (1.6) and the *Australian Capital Territory Statistical Summary* (1.7) issued by this Bureau. Statistics for the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory are also included in chapters dealing with particular subjects.

## THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### General description

#### Area

Upon the extension of New South Wales westwards to the 129th east meridian in 1825, the Northern Territory was incorporated in that colony, but in 1863 it was annexed by Royal Letters Patent to the province of South Australia. With the adjacent islands, it was transferred to the Commonwealth on 1 January 1911. The total area is 1,346,200 square kilometres.

#### Legislation and administration

On 1 January 1911 the Territory was transferred from South Australia to the Commonwealth. The terms were outlined in Year Book No. 15, page 940.

The *Northern Territory (Administration) Act* 1910 provides for an Administrator, appointed by the Governor-General, to administer the Territory on behalf of the Commonwealth Government.

In 1974 the Act was amended to provide for the establishment of a Legislative Assembly for the Northern Territory to make Ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the Northern Territory. The Assembly consists of 19 elected members including a Speaker elected by the members. The first meeting of the new Assembly was held on 20 November 1974. The Assembly replaces the Legislative Council for the Northern Territory, which held its last meeting on 26 September 1974, and consisted of 6 official members and 11 elected members with a President elected from among the elected members.

Ordinances passed by the Legislative Assembly are presented to the Administrator for assent. The Administrator is required by the Act to reserve Ordinances relating to certain matters, including Crown Lands and the Aboriginal inhabitants of the Territory, for the Governor-General's pleasure; others he may assent to, withhold assent from or return to the Legislative Assembly with recommended amendments. The Governor-General may, within six months, disallow any Ordinance assented to by the Administrator and, in respect of an Ordinance reserved for his pleasure, he may assent, withhold assent, withhold assent to part of the Ordinance and assent to the remainder or recommend to the Administrator any amendments to the laws of the Territory that he considers desirable arising out of his consideration of the Ordinance. Ordinances passed by the Legislative Assembly, whether assented to or withheld partially or in full from assent, are to be laid before each House of Parliament as soon as practicable.

The Act also provides for an Administrator's Council to advise the Administrator on any matter referred to it, either by the Administrator or in accordance with the provisions of any Ordinance of the Territory. The Administrator's Council consists of the Administrator and 5 members of the Assembly.

The Territory elects one member to the House of Representatives and, since 1975, two Senators to the Senate.

There is a Commonwealth Department of the Northern Territory which carries out the day to day administration of the Territory together with other Commonwealth Departments—Attorney-General's, Health, Education and Aboriginal Affairs—and Territory Departments of the Administrator and the Legislative Assembly.

While the Legislative Assembly has legislative powers it does not have executive powers. The Government's objective is progressively to confer executive responsibility on the Legislative Assembly to advance the Territory to Statehood.

Following the devastation of Darwin by Cyclone Tracy on Christmas Day 1974, Australia's greatest natural disaster, the Darwin Reconstruction Commission was established by the Commonwealth Government for the purpose of rebuilding Darwin.

The Northern Territory has two Local Government Councils; the Corporation of the City of Darwin, established in 1957, and the Corporation of the Municipality of Alice Springs, established in 1971. The Darwin Corporation consists of the Mayor and 10 Aldermen and the Alice Springs Corporation consists of the Mayor and 8 Aldermen. Town Management Boards are established in Katherine and Tennant Creek, each consisting of 5 elected members and 4 members appointed by the Administrator. The function of each Board is to advise the Administrator on local matters.

The remaining centres of the Territory are administered under mining leases, by Aboriginal community councils, by church missions or directly by the Department of the Northern Territory,

Nhulunbuy township is administered under lease by the Nhulunbuy Corporation, a subsidiary company of Nabalco Pty Ltd, which conducts a large bauxite mining operation on Gove Peninsula. The Company employs a Town Administrator and the Government is represented by a Departmental Officer. A similar arrangement applies to mining operations on Groote Eylandt.

### Physical geography

The Territory is within the torrid zone, with the exception of a strip about 300 kilometres wide which lies south of the Tropic of Capricorn.

The low flat coastline seldom reaches a height of 30 metres. Sandy beaches and mud flats, thickly fringed with mangroves, prevail. Sandstone, marl and laterite form the occasional cliffy headlands. The coastline of 6,200 kilometres is indented by bays and inlets and intersected by numerous rivers, many of which are navigable for considerable distances from their estuaries. The only practicable deep-water port for general use, however, is Darwin.

Inland the country generally is devoid of conspicuous landmarks. From the coast there is a general rise southwards to the vicinity of the seventeenth or eighteenth parallel of south latitude, where the higher lands form the watershed between the rivers that flow northwards to the sea and those that form the scanty supply for the interior system. Towards the centre of the continent the land over a wide area is of considerable elevation, and there are several mountain ranges, generally with an east and west trend.

### Climate, fauna and flora

There are two main climatic divisions, the wet season, November to April, and the dry season, May to October, with uniform and regular changes of weather. Nearly all the rainfall occurs in the summer months.

The ordinary types of native Australian fauna inhabit the Territory. As elsewhere on the continent, the higher *Theria* are rare, but marsupials, birds, crocodiles, fresh-water tortoises, snakes (mostly non-venomous), and frogs abound. There are many varieties of fresh-water fish and littoral Mollusca. Butterflies and beetles are strongly represented. The termite is a pest which is capable of serious damage to wooden buildings unless special preventive measures are taken. Mosquitoes and sandflies are very troublesome in the "top end" particularly in the wet season. Most types of native fauna are protected and buffaloes exist in large herds on the northern coastal plains.

The vegetation is north Australian in type but a number of forms belong to the Malayan and Oceanic regions. The climate and generally poor soils associated with it give rise to tropical savannah vegetation, with the size and volume of woody material present being closely related to rainfall and the quality of the forests decreasing strikingly as one proceeds inland from the northern coastline. In the north, cypress pine which is termite resistant, ironwood, bloodwood and paperbark timbers are cut and milled for local building purposes. Further inland, particularly on the Barkly Tableland and parts of the Victoria River district, there are better grazing grasses and some shrubs, while the wide belt of sandy plain between the Barkly Tableland and the ranges in the Alice Springs area, carries mainly spinifex grass and low scrub. The plains of the Alice Springs district carry chiefly an acacia scrub known as mulga, spinifex and other sparse grasses. The principal families represented in the interior are *Gramineae*, *Chenopodiaceae*, *Compositae* and *Mimosaceae*.

## Population

*See also* the chapters Population and Vital Statistics.

The population of the Northern Territory at the census of 30 June 1971, was 48,627 males, 37,763 females, 86,390 persons. These figures include an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of 11,774 males, 11,607 females, 23,381 persons. A total of 4,004 Aborigines were enumerated in urban areas of the Territory, the remainder were enumerated in areas classified as rural. While some Aborigines choose to live on reserves, a large area of reserved land (about 244,000 square kilometres) has been maintained to provide economic resources from which the Aborigines may benefit either directly or from royalty payments.

## Aboriginal Affairs

### Policy

Policy statements in recent years have been moving away from specific definitions such as 'assimilation' to a more open-ended approach in which the underlying principle is now self-management and self-sufficiency incorporating Aboriginal involvement in all stages of the development and implementation of policy.

In general, the Government aim is to remove legal, social and economic discrimination against Aborigines, and to provide opportunities to restore their lost power of self-determination in these areas.

### Legal status

As Australian citizens Aborigines are entitled to equality before the law. The Department of Aboriginal Affairs and other Commonwealth government departments and agencies, for the purpose of administering various programs designed to benefit Aborigines, define an 'Aboriginal' or 'Torres Strait Islander' as a person of Aboriginal or Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Islander and is accepted as such by the community with which he is associated.

### Special schools for Aborigines

The special schools for Aborigines were combined with the community schools in February 1973.

### Land

There are 353 separate Aboriginal reserves in Australia, comprising about 541,300 square kilometres of which 244,000 are located in the Northern Territory.

Early in 1973 Mr Justice A. Woodward was appointed as sole Commissioner to enquire into Aboriginal land rights in the Northern Territory and to advise the Commonwealth Government. The final report of the Commission, issued in May 1974, recommends that land be vested in Aboriginal communities in fee simple and makes recommendations on a number of related matters.

At present, royalties from the mineral and timber activities carried on within reserves are paid into the Aborigines Benefits Trust Fund, established in 1952. Loans or grants are made from the fund to any Aboriginal or group of Aborigines in the Northern Territory on the advice of a special advisory committee which has an all Aboriginal membership. Moneys in the fund are used for a wide variety of purposes which benefit the Aboriginal people.

Aboriginal communities are also being assisted to purchase land off reserves, and a number of properties have been bought with Government assistance. An Aboriginal land fund has been established for this purpose. The nature of the fund and its use will alter slightly if legislation giving effect to Aboriginal land rights is passed by Commonwealth Parliament.

### Community services and affairs

Government policy in the administration of Aboriginal affairs is to work as far as possible through existing State and Commonwealth Government departments and instrumentalities, and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs has primarily a policy planning and co-ordinating role. Responsibility for a variety of community services on Aboriginal reserves and in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory is being transferred from the Northern Territory Division of the Department to other appropriate authorities. The Departments of Education, Health, and Northern Territory have assumed full responsibility for education, health, and social welfare services respectively in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory, and for a number of other functions such as town services on reserves.

### Special programs for Aborigines

To meet the needs of Aboriginal people throughout Australia the Commonwealth Government has developed, on a national basis, a variety of programs in fields such as health, education, housing, employment and vocational training, special works, regional projects and economic enterprises.

Attention is being given to changing the institutional character of Aboriginal reserve communities. Supervisory staff are being replaced by community development advisors, and managerial and technical staff are being replaced by consultants and workers employed by the communities themselves. Programs are designed to encourage and strengthen the capacity of Aborigines to manage their own affairs, to increase their economic independence, and to reduce existing social and other handicaps facing them. The Government is also able to support and encourage Aboriginal initiative by responding directly to individual communities which wish to develop their own social or economic projects. Grants may be made to communities to enable them to improve community facilities and amenities, and to help them to establish economic enterprises.

The Government policy is to provide Aboriginal primary school children in Aboriginal communities with education in their own languages as far as practicable. Bilingual education programs were initiated in five schools in Northern Territory Aboriginal communities in 1973 as a first step in implementing the new policy.

## Production

*See also* the chapters dealing with particular subjects.

### Land tenure

Nearly 60 per cent of the total area of land in the Northern Territory is held under various forms of lease or licence which are described hereunder. The remainder comprises unoccupied and unreserved areas (22.98 per cent), reserved (19.75 per cent) and freehold (0.06 per cent).

The Commonwealth Government has for some time been conducting a comprehensive review of pre-existing policies affecting land tenures and the interests of Aborigines in land holding. An enquiry into Aboriginal land rights was held by Mr Justice Woodward, who made a report to the Commonwealth Government in April 1974. Legislation arising from the report is to go before Parliament in 1976.

A Commission of Inquiry into Urban Land Tenures was also established, under the chairmanship of Mr Justice Else-Mitchell, and in November 1973 a first report was made. Various government Departments have studied the Report, and further submissions have been made to the Commission. A second and final report is expected to be presented to Commonwealth Parliament in 1976.

The various forms of lease or licence of lands are as follows:

- Pastoral leases —granted for periods not exceeding 50 years.
- Agricultural leases —granted in perpetuity over areas generally limited to a maximum of 40,470 hectares approximately.
- Leases of town lands —granted in perpetuity.
- Special purposes leases—granted for a term of years or in perpetuity, for purposes other than pastoral, agricultural or mining, or private residential purposes within a town.
- Church lands leases —granted for church purposes at a nominal rent in perpetuity.
- Miscellaneous leases —granted for any prescribed or approved purpose, for a term of years or in perpetuity.
- Grazing licences —granted to graze stock on Crown Lands for periods not exceeding one year.
- Occupation licences —granted for manufacturing, industrial or any prescribed purposes for periods not exceeding five years.
- Miscellaneous licences —granted for periods not exceeding one year.

With the exception of leases within the Darwin Town Area or a municipality, which are granted at nominal rentals (10 cents per annum if and when demanded), the foregoing leases and licences are granted at specified rentals or rentals fixed by the Administrator and subject to reappraisal, and under various prescribed or specified conditions.

### Pastoral and agricultural industries

Beef cattle production is the major rural industry in the Northern Territory. The beef industry has been characterised throughout its history by a slow rate of expansion due to the poor quality of native pastures and unsatisfactory market outlets. Developments in pasture improvement and the use of adapted Zebu cross-cattle in the northern areas, the opening in 1963 of the export abattoirs in Katherine and Darwin, better disease control coupled with better management techniques, and various incentives and research programs introduced by the Government to encourage developments of the pastoral industry, have resulting in an increase in turnoff figures and value of production during the late 1960's and early 1970's.

In the last 2 years markets for beef have been poor with prices lower than in previous years. Coupled with this, the closure of the Darwin abattoirs, has caused a depreciation in the buoyancy of the beef industry in the Northern Territory. Northern Territory cattle have also been affected by restricted overseas markets. The value of production and the numbers of cattle turned-off, have consequently fallen. This reduction of the market and favourable seasonal factors have resulted in a marked increase in the cattle population.

The expected increase in the commercial production of grain sorghum has so far occurred on only a few properties. Grain sorghum requires arable land and a considerable capital input. Sorghum is still at an early stage of testing; nevertheless, it promises to provide a more capital intensive primary industry.

Animal production has continued to be augmented by the buffalo meat industry. Interest in domestication has been developed on the sub-coastal plains properties and will need to continue if this industry is to be further advanced. Through the development of more intensive cattle production, utilising improved pastures, tropical legume seed production has received considerable impetus. Both the pig and poultry industries, unaffected by overseas marketing, have continued to expand.

Increasing private investment in rural development is leading to greater pressures upon the Government for extension services and research. The work of C.S.I.R.O. and the Department of the Northern Territory research stations and experimental farms is providing the basis for continuing rural development. As new knowledge is being gathered it will be followed by testing on farm scale. The research institutions in existence in the Northern Territory are as follows.

*Arid Zone Research Institute—Alice Springs.* With the completion of the new research laboratory in 1967 more emphasis is being placed on arid zone research in the 'Centre' and the need to conserve valuable pastoral lands while achieving maximum productivity. Fields of work at the Institute include animal health, agriculture, soil conservation, botany, animal production and range management.

*Coastal Plains Research Station.* The station has 3 main roles, one as a regional station examining suitable pasture and animal production systems in the Coastal Plains/Darwin area, the second involving basic studies into breeding and breeds with wider implications and the third as the major centre for rice research. Its efforts have been largely devoted to the animal breeding investigations with some attention being paid to the development of improved pasture systems, including establishment, maintenance and the reaction to various grazing rates. Breeding trials are being conducted with Santa Gertrudis, Brahman and Africander cross-breeds, and Shorthorns. Banteng cattle are being studied as a source of tropical blood for breeding cattle adaptable to Territory conditions and a small herd of cross-bred cattle has now been developed. Buffalo/Brahman comparison studies are also being undertaken.

*Victoria River Experiment Station.* This is the only Government Experiment Station in the rangelands of the Northern Territory. Work is being undertaken on genetic improvement of the local breed of Shorthorn cattle, evaluation of improved pastures, supplements, breed comparisons and range management studies.

*Upper-Adelaide River Experiment Station.* The station is mainly concerned with regional investigations of pasture and animal production for the Murrakai area including stocking rates on improved and native pastures, comparison studies of improved pastures and testing of new potential pastures, management of pastures on flood plains and feeding supplementation trials.

*Berrimah Experiment Farm.* The work of this farm has been mainly restricted to pasture and fodder crop investigations, plant introduction, sorghum breeding, fruit, vegetable and weed control trials and intensive animal studies.

*Katherine Experiment Farm.* This farm services the southern part of the Daly River Basin and has a larger component of cropping work than other stations. Work being conducted includes utilisation of Townsville stylo, pasture improvement and management, sorghum, peanut, guar, cowpea and bulrush millet trials and various aspects of cattle management.

*Douglas-Daly Experiment Station.* This station is concerned with developing animal production systems for the higher rainfall part of the Daly River Basin including evaluation of pastures under grazing/stocking rates, supplementary feeding, use of fertilisers, pasture establishment, and pasture/animal production trials.

*Other research sites.* Research and trials are also being conducted at selected sites on maize, soybeans, sorghum, peanuts, *Stylosanthes spp.* and weed control.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY: AREA AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS

<i>Crop</i>	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
	AREA( <i>a</i> ) (hectares)				
Fruit—Bananas . . . . .	(c)	31	21	20	11
Pineapples . . . . .	(c)	9	6	8	(c)
Other . . . . .	49	48	43	34	21
<i>Total fruit</i> . . . . .	49	88	70	62	32
Peanuts . . . . .	23	40	13	23	(c)
Sorghum for grain . . . . .	1,309	5,638	11,032	3,990	4,235
Vegetables for human consumption . . . . .	102	160	170	182	131
Other crops( <i>b</i> ) . . . . .	856	1,434	823	721	3,620
<i>Grand total(a)</i> . . . . .	2,339	7,360	12,108	4,978	8,018

#### PRODUCTION

Fruit—Bananas . . . . .	tonnes	170	228	242	274	138
Pineapples . . . . .	"	(d)	12	16	21	3
Peanuts . . . . .	"	15	44	..	3	..
Sorghum (grain) . . . . .	"	1,525	13,806	17,041	6,674	6,784

(*a*) Excludes rice; details are not available for publication. (*b*) Principally fodder crops. (*c*) Not available for publication, included in Other crops. (*d*) Not available for publication.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY: LIVESTOCK (‘000)

31 March—	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
1972 . . . . .	(a)	1,166	7	5
1973 . . . . .	(a)	1,237	3	7
1974 . . . . .	(a)	1,321	1	8
1975 . . . . .	(a)	1,434	1	7
1976 . . . . .	28	1,603	1	7

(*a*) Not collected.

#### Mining

During 1974-75 the mining industry continued to be the major contributor to the income of the Northern Territory. Mineral output was valued at \$80 million in 1972-73, at \$126 million in 1973-74 and at \$139 million in 1974-75.

The main minerals produced during 1974-75 were bauxite (including the production of alumina) on the Gove Peninsula, manganese from Groote Eylandt and gold, copper and bismuth from Tennant Creek. Production of iron ore ceased in December 1974, after cyclone Tracy severely damaged the ore loading facilities at the port of Darwin.

A bauxite mining and treatment plant is operated at Gove by Nabalco. Bauxite, including alumina production, was valued at \$62,486,616 in 1974-75. Of the bauxite produced 2,329,022 tonnes or 56 per cent was fed into the alumina plant, while of the remaining 1,848,959 tonnes (44 per cent), 875,971 tonnes were exported to Japan.

The production of manganese from the extensive deposits at Groote Eylandt supplies all Australia's requirements of metallurgical grade manganese ore. Approximately half of the manganese produced during 1974-75 was exported to Japan with smaller amounts exported to Europe, the U.S.A. and South Korea. Total shipments from Groote Eylandt amounted to 882,106 tonnes of lump ore and 569,806 tonnes of fines.

Most of the Northern Territory ore production is exported to Japan with the U.S.A. and various European countries being the other main buyers of Northern Territory ores.

Most of the Northern Territory gold and copper production is obtained from the copper-gold ores of the underground mines of Peko-Walsend Ltd at Tennant Creek. Currently (since February, 1975) only those mines producing ores with a high gold content are in operation, due to the unfavourable world prices for copper. The flash smelter for the production of blister copper, which commenced operations in Tennant Creek in December 1973 suspended operations in February 1975 while copper prices remain low.

The uranium ore deposits discovered in the Alligator Rivers area, about 240 kilometres east of Darwin (Ranger, Nabarlek, Jabiluka and Koongarra, to name the major finds), are still subject to environmental inquiries.

In the McArthur River District a pilot plant has been established to develop an economic ore treatment method for the extensive, low-grade, but extremely finely disseminated, lead-zinc sulphides deposits, which pose a major dressing problem.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY: MINING ESTABLISHMENTS

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Establishments operating end of June . . . . . No.	15	15	15
Persons employed(a) . . . . . No.	1,473	1,495	1,180
Wages and salaries . . . . . \$m	10.8	12.9	15.9
Turnover . . . . . \$m	66.0	87.7	91.6
Opening stocks at 30 June . . . . . \$m	8.3	7.8	12.5
Closing stocks at 30 June . . . . . \$m	7.8	12.4	17.5
Purchases, transfers in and selected expenses . . . \$m	16.4	22.0	27.4
Value added(b) . . . . . \$m	49.1	70.2	69.2
Fixed capital expenditure(c) . . . . . \$m	10.3	6.2	14.7

(a) At end of June. Includes working proprietors. (b) Turnover plus increase (or less decrease) in the value of stocks less purchases, transfers in and selected expenses. (c) Outlay on fixed tangible assets less disposals.

#### Petroleum and natural gas

Off-shore operations represented the main activity in petroleum exploration during 1974-75. At 30 June 1975, there were 5 oil permits covering 126,428 square kilometres, 2 oil licences covering 593 square kilometres and 14 exploration permits covering 2,246 blocks. Two oil leases covering 280 square kilometres are under application.

During 1974-75, seven off-shore wells were completed with the Sunrise No. 1 well having shows of gas. No wells were drilled on-shore during 1974-75.

#### Forestry

Forestry activities in the Northern Territory commenced in 1959 when the Forestry and Timber Bureau established a northern regional station in Darwin. In the same year the Legislative Council of the Northern Territory passed a Forestry Ordinance to regulate the harvesting of forest produce and the management of forests. Activities during the first 10 years were largely devoted to assessing the native forest resource, establishing species trials to determine what species were suitable for plantation establishment and examining the silviculture of native forests. Some forest development work was carried out under the terms of two Cabinet approvals. This work mainly took place within Aboriginal reserves in order to provide employment for Aborigines and included plantation establishment, the protection of native forests from fire to encourage regeneration and the training of Aborigines in sawmilling.

In 1970 a new five year forest development program was commenced which expanded forestry activities both within Aboriginal reserves and in forest reserves and potential forest reserves. It has been estimated that 75 per cent of the potentially productive forest land in the Northern Territory occurs within Aboriginal reserves.

The program provides for the extension of fire protection and forest management activities within cypress pine and other native forest in Arnhem Land and on Melville Island. A major objective of the program is to provide fire protection and forest management to 40,000 hectares of



mixed cypress pine forest within Arnhem Land. The program also provides for the setting aside of forest areas to be managed for multiple use purposes including timber production, recreation and the protection of soil and water sheds. The annual establishment of 400 hectares of coniferous plantation is included in the present program. Forest assessment activities are to be continued and fire control activities are to be expanded within forestry, pastoral and agricultural areas as well as tree planting activities for conservation in the arid zone. The development of a second 5 year forestry development program due in 1976 has been delayed in the aftermath of Cyclone Tracy and uncertainty concerning the final format of Aboriginal Land Rights Legislation.

The consumption of sawn timber in the Northern Territory during 1973-74 was estimated at 25,000 cubic metres. It is not possible to obtain accurate statistics because of the substantial, but unknown quantity of sawn timber which enters the Northern Territory by road. Local production during 1973-74 was 900 cubic metres. Timber consumption following Cyclone Tracy, remained at approximately the same level as in previous years.

The effects of Cyclone Tracy on the Forests Resource of the Territory was minor. Forests in the land in the immediate Darwin environs were extensively damaged but these forests have value only in the aesthetic sense. Damage was restricted to a band some twenty kilometres wide reaching fifty kilometres inland.

Resource investigations have shown there are three areas within the Northern Territory with significant pulpwood resources which may be suitable for exploitation. These areas are within the present Aboriginal reserves. There has been some interest by Japanese paper industries in the past, and it is likely that this will increase in the next decade due to the rapidly increasing Japanese demand for paper and paper products.

The tropical *Eucalyptus* forests in the Northern Territory are comparatively low in timber productivity per unit area. Forest policy within the Northern Territory provides for multiple use management where feasible in order to optimise other forest values including soil and water conservation, forest recreation, grazing and the conservation of flora and fauna. The financial yields from forest areas can be increased through this form of management.

The total revenue derived from the forest is related to the levels at which royalties and fees are set. In principle, direct forest revenues should be adequate for the establishment, management and protection of the forest area. The forests provide renewable resources on which industries can be based and which will develop substantially greater income than direct revenues from the forest.

### Fishing

Following preliminary surveys which indicated the existence of valuable prawn resources off the Northern Territory coast, prawning operations were approved in 1968 in waters adjacent to the Territory. Two prawning companies are now operating, both of which are joint Australian-Japanese ventures. One prawn processing plant is in operation in Darwin and another operates on Groote Eylandt. Boats and equipment valued at \$24 million were based in the Northern Territory in 1974-75. During 1974-75, 2.1m kilograms live weight of prawns were caught by Northern Territory prawning ventures. The Territory exported 0.8m kilograms (processed weight) valued at \$2.45 million. The other main fishery in the Territory is that based on barramundi in estuaries and inshore areas. This species also provides good sport fishing in inland areas. Commercial catches of barramundi totalled 194,000 kilograms (filleted weight) for the calendar year 1975.

### NORTHERN TERRITORY: PRINCIPAL FISHERIES

		1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
<b>Prawns—</b>						
Estimated gross weight of prawn catch	tonnes	4,108	2,629	2,584	3,998	2,060
Gross value of prawns	\$'000	3,083	2,562	4,005	5,791	3,080
<b>Fish—</b>						
Estimated live weight of fish catch	tonnes	253	391	619	846	781
Gross value of fish	\$'000	139	191	380	749	613
<b>All fisheries—</b>						
Number of boats engaged		127	130	163	276	194
Number of men employed		542	532	561	788	638

### Secondary Industries

The types of secondary industries that have developed in the Northern Territory have been largely service industries based on demand for local markets together with the processing of primary production for export including the processing of mined ores, prawns and beef. The isolation of the Northern Territory from the major population areas of Australia and the resultant high transportation costs make other than local market expansion difficult. However such isolation also provides a protected market for some aspects of secondary industry.

The extent of importation of commodities into the Northern Territory, significant underdeveloped raw resources and a growing population (and hence market) would suggest that potential exists for industrial expansion. Some see the proximity of South East Asian markets to Darwin as providing considerable future potential for export orientated secondary industry development.

In recent years, the effects of Cyclone Tracy on the City of Darwin, the general downturn in economic activity in the Australian economy, and the beef industry slump have had a significant effect on secondary industry in the Northern Territory. Some rapid growth in secondary industry associated with the building industry in Darwin has occurred, but growth in other areas is largely dependent on improvement in the general economic climate.

The following table shows preliminary results of the Manufacturing Censuses taken in respect of the years 1973-74 and 1974-75.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY: MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

	1973-74	1974-75(a)
Establishments at 30 June . . . . .	No. 102	68
Persons employed(b) . . . . .	No. 2,450	2,308
Wages and salaries . . . . .	\$m 18.0	22.0
Turnover . . . . .	\$m 87.0	94.7
Opening stocks at 30 June . . . . .	\$m 16.6	17.6
Closing stocks 30 June . . . . .	\$m 26.0	34.1
Purchases, transfers in and selected expenses . . . . .	\$m 45.8	61.4
Value added(c) . . . . .	\$m 50.6	49.8

(a) From 1974-75 all manufacturing establishments owned by multi-establishment enterprises and single establishment manufacturing enterprises with four or more persons employed.  
 (b) Average over whole year. Includes working proprietors. (c) Sales, transfers out and other operating revenue plus increase (or less decrease) in the value of stocks, less purchases, transfers in and selected expenses.

### Tourism

Tourism has become one of the Territory's major industries in recent years and is likely to play an increasingly important role in the Territory's economy. Prior to Cyclone Tracy the industry had sustained growth rates of the order of 12 per cent per annum. In 1971, visitors numbered 112,800; with 12,000 of these coming from overseas. Ayers Rock provides the most reliable long-term visitor figures which show that from a visitor total of 5,000 in 1961, numbers have increased to 38,000 in 1971, and to 54,000 in 1975. Despite the setback in the Top End suffered as a result of Cyclone Tracy, the industry there already shows signs of resurgence, while the Centre has experienced continued growth.

In 1974-75 the Northern Territory Tourist Board spent \$530,770 in development of the industry. Bureaux are currently in operation in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Darwin and Alice Springs.

Action is under way for a detailed study of the Territory's tourist industry and tourist potential to identify future development options and evaluate these in terms of implications for the Northern Territory economy, its people and the environment. This is seen as necessary to provide a framework for possible future private and government planning and investment covering not only the tourist industry but general urban and regional development in the Territory, given the major role that tourism could play in this.

### National Parks and Reserves

About 43,000 square kilometres have been set aside as wildlife sanctuaries under the Wildlife Conservation and Control Ordinance. They are controlled by the Chief Inspector of Wildlife who is an officer of the Department of the Northern Territory. Wildlife protected areas total 236,000 square kilometres, the bulk of which consists of Aboriginal reserves.

The Northern Territory Reserves Board administers some 37 national parks and reserves covering an area of over 249,926 hectares. The Board is responsible under the National Parks and Gardens Ordinance for the care, control and management of these reserves, and its functions include the preservation and protection of natural and historical features and the encouragement of public use and enjoyment of land set aside in such reserves.

### Trade, transport and communication

#### Trade

No comprehensive record is kept of the trade between the States and the Territory. The following table shows the values of the principal commodities imported into and exported from the Northern Territory from or to overseas countries.

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY: PRINCIPAL OVERSEAS IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (\$'000)

Commodity	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76
<b>IMPORTS</b>					
Petroleum and shale spirit—					
Automotive spirit . . . . .	1,108	1,399	192	3,801	4,786
Automotive distillate . . . . .	1,437	1,185	1,507	3,772	3,780
Furnace fuel . . . . .	1,847	2,233	8,505	13,407	19,332
Other(a) . . . . .	2,124	1,732	129	2,441	6,662
Chemical elements and compounds . . . . .	2,887	3,282	2,144	7,760	6,834
Timber . . . . .	546	771	1,235	1,754	1,887
Machinery and transport equipment(b) . . . . .	9,049	32,827	17,579	7,332	7,314
Other articles . . . . .	6,868	6,161	7,141	8,628	8,564
<b>Total imports . . . . .</b>	<b>25,866</b>	<b>49,590</b>	<b>38,432</b>	<b>48,895</b>	<b>59,159</b>
<b>EXPORTS(c)</b>					
Meats . . . . .	5,744	7,375	6,047	2,698	2,076
Fresh prawns and shrimps . . . . .	4,853	4,479	4,162	3,140	3,005
Iron ore and concentrates . . . . .	..	5,656	4,939	1,549	606
Other metalliferous ores and metal scrap . . . . .	22,901	22,918	27,149	37,379	53,825
Inorganic chemicals elements metallic oxides, etc. . . . .	52	22,258	35,775	56,786	83,374
Ships, boats and floating structures . . . . .	8,230	14,881	3,185	11,519	322
Other articles . . . . .	7,463	18,131	5,525	3,993	8,643
<b>Total exports . . . . .</b>	<b>49,243</b>	<b>95,698</b>	<b>86,782</b>	<b>117,064</b>	<b>151,851</b>

(a) Includes industrial and marine diesel fuel, oil for use as refinery stock, etc. (b) Includes value of oil search equipment (floating structures, etc.) which were brought to the Northern Territory for temporary operation and moved overseas after the planned exploration activities were completed. (c) Includes domestic exports and re-exports.

#### Railways

The Australian National Railways operates the Central Australia Railway from Port Augusta in South Australia to Alice Springs over a distance of 1,226 kilometres of which about 322 kilometres are in the Northern Territory. The line is standard gauge from Port Augusta to Marree, a distance of 357 kilometres and narrow (1,067 mm) gauge from Marree to Alice Springs. The Commonwealth Government has approved the construction of a standard gauge line between Tarcoola and Alice Springs, to replace the Marree-Alice Springs section of the Central Australia Railway and survey work has commenced. The Australian National Railways also operates the North Australia Railway between Darwin and Birdum on a narrow (1,067 mm) gauge over a distance of 510 kilometres. The two inland terminals, Alice Springs and Birdum are about 1,014 kilometres apart and are connected by road transport along the Stuart Highway. Larrimah, on the highway and 10 kilometres north of Birdum, is the point of trans-shipment for passengers and goods and is, at present, the effective terminal. A road-rail freight service operates between Adelaide and Darwin via Alice Springs.

### Roads

The Stuart Highway is the principal north-south axis route for the Northern Territory connecting Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Darwin to Adelaide. The section Darwin-Alice Springs is 1,535 kilometres long and sealed over its full length. The section south of Alice Springs is sealed for 207 kilometres to Erldunda with work proceeding to seal the remainder as far as the border with South Australia. This is expected to be completed by December 1976.

The Barkly Highway is the principal route to and from Queensland via Mt. Isa. It is 648 kilometres long and is sealed. Running approximately east-west it connects to the Stuart Highway some 26 kilometres north of Tennant Creek.

The Victoria Highway, the principal access route to and from Western Australia via Kununurra, is 467 kilometres long and is sealed.

These highways are used to carry the various freight including cattle, particularly between the railheads of Mt. Isa, Alice Springs and Larrimah. They provide access to meatworks at Wyndham (Western Australia), Cloncurry (Queensland) and Katherine. In addition they play a particularly important part in the Northern Territory economy in their association with the tourist industry.

The first of a number of programs for upgrading the Stuart and Barkly Highways is nearly complete and a second has been approved by Parliament.

The fourth principal Northern Territory road is the Arnhem Highway which has been sealed for 210 kilometres. It commences some 34 kilometres south of Darwin at the Stuart Highway and leads eastwards to the uranium exploration and development areas of the Alligator Rivers district.

Development roads serving the more remote outback communities have received attention. At 30 June 1975 there were 19,962 kilometres of roads in the Northern Territory. These comprise 4,534 kilometres sealed, 1,597 kilometres gravel, 4,762 kilometres formed and 9,069 kilometres unformed.

### Shipping

Shipping services to Darwin are provided from the eastern states by the Australian National Line using one vessel on a six weekly service and from Western Australia by West Australian State Shipping Service using three vessels providing three services a month. Tankers from Australian and overseas ports deliver oil products to Darwin. General cargo vessels from overseas ports also visit Darwin. The prawning and fishing industry accounts for a significant portion of the shipping entries into the port.

John Burke Pty. Ltd. operates a regular shipping service from Brisbane to the Gulf of Carpentaria ports which serves Aboriginal communities as well as the mining centres of Melville Bay (Gove) and Milner Bay (Groote Eylandt). Other shipping services to Milner Bay and Melville Bay bring supplies for the mining operation and bulk carriers load ore and other mining products for delivery to ports in Australia and overseas.

Powered barges provide services from Darwin to Aboriginal communities and ports along the coast.

### Air services

At 1 January 1976, there were 127 aerodromes in the Territory, six of which are maintained by the Australian Department of Transport, Air Transport Group. Following the destruction by Cyclone Tracy of the facilities for international passengers in the Darwin terminal building, overseas passenger flights ceased. The Merpati Nusantara service (Darwin to Kupang) resumed during 1975 and on 31 March 1976, Qantas re-introduced a service to Hong Kong and London. Regular internal services to Darwin, with, in some cases, intermediate stops at Territory centres, are operated by Trans-Australia Airlines and Ansett Airlines (from Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane), and MacRobertson-Miller Airways Ltd (from Perth). Connair Pty Ltd operate a network of air services throughout the Territory, the company's base being at Alice Springs, in addition, MacRobertson-Miller Airways Ltd operate from Darwin to Gove and Alice Springs. The Northern Territory Aerial Medical Service has aircraft based at Darwin, Gove and Alice Springs, whilst the Royal Flying Doctor Service operates from Alice Springs. Charter services are available at a number of centres including Darwin, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Gove and Groote Eylandt.

### Posts, telegraph, telephones, radio and television

Postal communication is maintained by road, rail and air transport between major Northern Territory towns and the capital cities of Australia. Large centres receive surface mails by two major road mail services operating via Alice Springs and Mount Isa. The more remote centres are served by the aerial services. Direct mails are despatched to several overseas countries but direct despatches are received only from London, Bangkok and Djakarta.

Trunk telephone links to Darwin extend from Townsville via a broadband microwave radio relay system and from Adelaide via carrier systems superimposed on the overland telegraph lines.

These systems also carry telegram and telex traffic and serve the towns along the routes. Subscriber trunk dialling facilities from Darwin and Nhulunbuy (Gove Peninsula), were made available during 1974.

High frequency radio telephone exchanges at Katherine and Alice Springs provide connections to the telephone network for some of the remote properties in the Northern Territory. The majority of homesteads on pastoral leases are equipped with radio transceivers operating through the Royal Flying Doctor base at Alice Springs or the Telecom Australia Outpost Radio base in Darwin, which provide a message passing and emergency communications service.

Regional national broadcasting stations are situated at Darwin, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine and Gove and there are commercial broadcasting stations located at Darwin and Alice Springs. Two television stations ABD Channel 6 of the national broadcasting system and NTD Channel 8, a commercial station, operate in Darwin. The Darwin ABD 6 national program is also broadcast in Katherine (ABKN 7) and Tennant Creek (ABTD 9) with a translator (ABTD 9-10) to give coverage of the mining residential area at Warrigo. A national television station ABAD Channel 7 operates in Alice Springs.

## EDUCATION

*See also* the chapter Education.

The Commonwealth Department of Education through its Northern Territory Division is responsible for the education administration in the Northern Territory.

This responsibility includes the following:

- (i) Development of curricula for use in all Northern Territory schools; education research; in-service and pre-service education of teachers; development of a teaching resources centre.
- (ii) Special projects covering the range of educational facilities in the Northern Territory, including education programs for Aborigines, migrant education and services for handicapped children.
- (iii) Planning and controlling the capital works program of educational buildings in the Northern Territory.
- (iv) Administration of capital assistance to non-government schools.

Much of this is carried out at a local level by staff of regional offices in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine.

### Schools in the Northern Territory

At August 1975 there were 98 schools in the Northern Territory catering for approximately 22,000 students.

About 3,000 of these students attend private or mission schools. The phase-out of South Australia's education commitments planned for the period 1971-75 is now completed, including the transfer of responsibility for recruiting and employing teachers to the Commonwealth Teaching Service. Staffing organisational patterns are unique to the Territory and are based on locally perceived needs. Professional staff are recruited by the Commonwealth Teaching Service as requested by the Northern Territory Authority.

The curricula of Northern Territory urban schools are basically derived from the South Australian pattern, but they are changing. For instance, the secondary schools are developing their own certification and matriculation assessment procedures, an exercise which is complicated by the fact that there is no university or college of advanced education in the Territory.

There are two Schools of the Air in the Northern Territory, one at Alice Springs and one at Katherine. Plans are under way at both centres to relocate the Schools in new buildings in late 1976 and to include in each a residential wing to allow students from remote areas to attend their home school for approximately one week each term. In 1974 the Schools assumed responsibility from the South Australian Correspondence School, for primary correspondence lessons for children living in isolated areas of the Northern Territory. Aerial patrols using a teacher pilot and regular road patrols in the dry season maintain teacher/pupil/parent contact.

A continuing development has been the interest in Indonesian and South-East Asian studies in secondary schools in the Northern Territory. Student and teacher exchange schemes now operate each year between Bali and Territory high schools.

New open-plan primary schools in urban areas have been opened recently, exciting local interest in fresh approaches to education. Current flexible-space designs reflect the desirability of alternative approaches to teaching techniques with a multi-cultural and heterogeneous student population. The area school concept in smaller urban communities is yielding to population growth and new primary and high school facilities are being provided.

### Aboriginal education

The great majority of Northern Territory Aborigines live away from the town centres. Education for Aboriginal children is provided in various settings, including mission schools, Government schools on or near missions, Government schools in or near Aboriginal townships or in schools on pastoral properties.

In late 1973, as a result of a survey of educational buildings in Aboriginal communities (the Sebac Report) the Government initiated a major five-year program to upgrade buildings and facilities in these communities. However, a recent movement on the part of some Aboriginal family groups to leave central locations for a more traditionally oriented life style has posed new problems as regards providing educational facilities for these decentralised communities or 'out-stations' and a major project is under way to develop a new form of schooling compatible with the wishes of the communities. One means of providing physical facilities in this situation is the use of mobile 'caravan schools'.

The Government schools for Aboriginal children in out-of-town centres provide tuition at pre-school and primary school level, a number of them have some post-primary classes as well.

For Aboriginal children who wish to proceed to secondary school, there are three residential, transitional colleges. Yirara, Kormilda and Dhupuma Colleges are regionally-based, but sited near urban centres. They provide students from bush locations with the opportunity to become bicultural, and prepare them for entry to secondary school programs in towns.

A development that has attracted wide interest and is likely to assume relatively large proportions is a bilingual education program whereby Aboriginal children are taught, in their early years of schooling, in their native tongue. Eleven languages have been analysed sufficiently to allow bilingual programs to be mounted, and initial literacy to be in local vernaculars. The extension of bilingual programs to the majority of Aboriginal children is hampered by the fact that there are over 130 languages and dialects in use.

The School of Australian Linguistics, which is training Aborigines as linguists, works closely with the Bilingual Education Section of the Northern Territory Division of the Commonwealth Department of Education.

Adult education is provided in Aboriginal townships and on missions. Most adult education activity takes the form of classes conducted by local instructors. Classes include song and dance, folklore, art and craft, English, civics, basic mathematics, hairdressing, mechanics, dressmaking, domestic science, health and nutrition, budgeting and manual arts. The Department of Education has developed a variety of short term courses to assist Aboriginal people to overcome problems of social concern, including elections and voting procedures. Intensive courses are conducted in major centres with visiting instructors, but Aborigines also conduct courses.

### Darwin Community College

The Darwin Community College is presently the only institution which provides post-secondary education in the Northern Territory. The College was opened in 1974 and is an autonomous, multi-purpose institution. It has schools of business and management, general studies (including teacher education), creative and applied arts, technology and science, trades and linguistics. As well as courses leading to awards, the College provides a wide range of non-award general interest classes. It provides tutorial assistance to external students enrolled at the University of Queensland. The College has established a regional campus at Alice Springs and has annexes at Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Tennant Creek. The School of Australian Linguistics is established at Batchelor. During first semester 1976 the Darwin Community College recorded 5,437 course enrolments, the highest number in its brief history.

Though the Darwin Community College's role is primarily to cater for the Northern Territory's needs, it does have a national significance in that it is the first multi-level institution of its kind in Australia. Because of its unique educational nature it is constantly attracting visitors from interstate educational institutions and from overseas.

### Apprenticeship training

Since March 1974 the formal training of apprentices in the Northern Territory has been coordinated through the Darwin Community College. Courses are conducted at the Casuarina and Alice Springs Campuses for the majority of trades. These courses are either day or block release. Trades that are less popular are serviced by interstate block courses.

## Finance

Details of receipts and outlay of the Territory for the years 1970-1971 to 1974-75 are shown in the table following. In this table identifiable receipts and outlay of the Northern Territory have been classified into a National Accounts form. The table covers transactions relating to the Northern Territory in the Commonwealth Government Consolidated Revenue Fund and the following trust funds: Aborigines Benefits, Northern Territory Government Settlements Canteens, Northern Territory Housing Loans, Northern Territory Transport and Northern Territory expenditure from the Aboriginal Advancement Trust Account. Details of the financial transactions of the following Northern Territory semi-government authorities also included: the Northern Territory Port Authority and the Northern Territory Housing Commission. Details of the financial transactions of the Darwin City Council are also incorporated in the table. Revenue derived by the Commonwealth Government from income taxes, customs duties, etc., levied in the Northern Territory and expenditure by the Commonwealth Government in the Northern Territory on such items as defence, civil aviation, railways, etc., payments to residents from the National Welfare Fund and advances from the Aboriginal Loans Commission are not included.

**NORTHERN TERRITORY: RECEIPTS AND OUTLAY**  
(\$'000)

	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Taxation—					
Rates on land . . . . .	698	1,041	1,099	1,227	1,647
Vehicle registration fees . . . . .	646	784	816	859	831
Liquor taxes(a) . . . . .	366	443	486	589	568
Payroll tax . . . . .	..	1,587	1,957	2,684	5,117
Stamp duties . . . . .	176	158	184	330	259
Other taxes, fees, fines, etc. . . . .	574	695	731	978	1,062
Interest, rent, etc. . . . .	1,598	1,488	1,542	2,085	1,838
Public enterprises income . . . . .	3,505	3,928	3,753	4,683	-4,324
Net sale of local authority and public corporation securities . . . . .	399	288	157	239	283
Other receipts(b) . . . . .	1,773	6	975	928	-4,110
Net charge to Commonwealth budget . . . . .	87,623	109,948	122,431	155,792	276,339
<b>Total receipts . . . . .</b>	<b>97,358</b>	<b>120,366</b>	<b>134,131</b>	<b>170,394</b>	<b>279,510</b>
<b>OUTLAY</b>					
Final consumption expenditure—					
Law, order and public safety . . . . .	3,326	3,607	5,440	7,410	12,539
Education . . . . .	7,813	9,491	12,818	19,420	31,039
Health . . . . .	9,417	12,069	14,673	19,882	27,890
Social security and welfare . . . . .	8,028	8,478	10,570	11,462	20,227
Other . . . . .	13,416	17,116	18,795	24,787	77,483
Expenditure on new fixed assets and stocks—					
Education . . . . .	5,126	7,671	12,036	9,005	12,235
Health . . . . .	2,089	9,457	5,274	8,991	14,569
Social security and welfare . . . . .	455	348	623	220	500
Housing and community amenities . . . . .	12,183	16,592	17,876	16,031	25,845
Roads . . . . .	11,908	11,636	14,627	14,779	16,454
Other . . . . .	6,107	7,879	7,345	6,367	16,232
Electricity, gas and water . . . . .	10,083	8,960	8,032	9,191	11,692
Net purchase of existing assets . . . . .	45	280	..	3,729	9,069
Interest paid . . . . .	154	226	238	252	239
Cash benefits . . . . .	204	201	257	64	1,754
Subsidies . . . . .	460	620	505	657	237
Net advances to the private sector—					
Housing and community amenities . . . . .	4,608	3,749	1,163	8,252	-15,921
Other . . . . .	-95	83	68	1	1,651
Net advances to public financial enterprises . . . . .	..	..	..	..	2,750
Grants for private capital purposes . . . . .	2,031	1,903	3,791	9,894	13,029
<b>Total outlay . . . . .</b>	<b>97,358</b>	<b>120,366</b>	<b>134,131</b>	<b>170,394</b>	<b>279,510</b>

(a) Estimated for years prior to 1972-73.

(b) Includes movements in cash, investments, etc.

## THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

### General description

The Constitution provides that the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be in the State of New South Wales but distant not less than 100 miles (160 kilometres) from Sydney. After a number of alternative sites were considered, an area of 2,359 square kilometres lying approximately 320 kilometres south-west of Sydney was transferred to the Commonwealth as from 1 January 1911. A further 73 square kilometres at Jervis Bay were transferred as from 4 September 1915 to serve as a port for the Territory.

The primary responsibility for administering the Australian Capital Territory lies with the Department of the Capital Territory, whose functions include housing, public transport, police and municipal services. Education, public health, justice, and the provision of basic physical services including water supply, sewerage and roads, are the responsibility of the Departments of Education, Health, Attorney-General's, and Construction. The National Capital Development Commission has the responsibility for the planning and development of the Canberra city area.

During 1974 the A.C.T. Advisory Council which had been in existence since 1930 was replaced by the A.C.T. Legislative Assembly. The first Assembly was elected on 28 September 1974 and held its first meeting on 28 October 1974.

The Assembly is constituted under the *Legislative Assembly Ordinance* 1936, Section 10 of which defines its role as follows:

'The Assembly may advise the Minister (for the Capital Territory) in relation to any matter affecting the Territory including the making of new Ordinances or the repeal or amendment of existing Ordinances.'

Although the Assembly's present role is simply an advisory one the fact of its establishment has been seen by some as evidence of a move towards self-government for the Territory.

The Assembly consists of 18 Members (9 from each of the electoral divisions of Canberra and Fraser) and its procedure is modelled on that of the House of Representatives. Its Members serve on a part-time basis and sittings usually take place on two evenings each fortnight. During 1975 the Assembly held 24 sittings, comprising 33 sitting days.

The Assembly normally considers (and sometimes introduces) Ordinances which are proposed for the Territory and also passes resolutions on matters affecting the Territory. It is represented on a number of boards, authorities and committees, such as the Canberra Commercial Development Authority, the A.C.T. Electricity Authority, the Interim Schools Authority, the Capital Territory Health Commission, the Liquor Licensing Board and the Australian Constitutional Convention.

At the census of 30 June 1976 the population of the Australian Capital Territory was 197,578. See also the chapters Population and Vital Statistics.

### National Capital Development Commission

The *National Capital Development Commission Act* 1957 provides for a Commission to undertake and carry out the planning, development and construction of the City of Canberra as the National Capital of the Commonwealth. The year 1974-75 was the seventeenth year of the Commission's operations. Construction work was carried out by means of agency arrangements with the Department of Construction and private consultants. Expenditure by the Commission in recent years is as follows: 1971-72 \$59.5 million; 1972-73 \$74.4 million; 1973-74 \$99.7 million. Total expenditure in 1974-75 was \$147.5 million comprising: land development and services \$33 million; water, sewerage and stormwater, services and headworks \$18.2 million; housing, flats and other accommodation \$23.2 million; educational facilities \$16.3 million; roads, bridges and traffic control \$8.6 million; city works and associated facilities \$9.9 million; Commonwealth Government offices \$21.4 million; national works \$3.2 million; others \$13.7 million.

The following major works were completed during the 1974-75 financial year by the Commission: land servicing projects in Charnwood, Macgregor, Flynn, Spence, Chapman, Garran, various medium density housing sites and streetlighting and underground electricity mains in various localities; reservoirs at Belconnen and Mount Stromlo; 54 inch trunk sewer Ginninderra Creek, Belconnen; 12 housing contracts in various localities; Primary schools at Flynn, Holder, Holt, Melba, Duffy, Weetangera; Waramanga/Weston Creek High school stage 1 and Melrose High school, Pearce assembly hall and library; stage 2 Tuggeranong Parkway; Tuggeranong arterial stage 1; Village Creek arterial stage 1; Weston Horticulture Centre; Phillip Transport Depot; Belconnen Town Centre—roads and hydraulic services; Campbell Park Offices stage 1—buildings 1 and 2; Russell Offices—building No. 10; Administrative Building—fire escape facility; Parliament House extensions.



Major works under construction at the commencement of the 1975-76 financial year; roads and services in Charnwood, Garran, Hawker, Spence, Stirling, Kaleen, Kambah, Fraser, Tuggeranong North, Wanniasa, Giralang; Googong Dam and associated works; bulk water supply main from Stromlo to Belconnen; South Taylor Reservoir No. 2 and associated supply mains; Weetangera Reservoir; Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre; Tuggeranong Interceptor Sewer; Molonglo Valley Interceptor Sewer; Giralang trunk sewer; Village Creek trunk stormwater; Mount Taylor and Wanniasa catch drain and trunk drain; Tuggeranong Creek main drain and sewer; 31 major housing contracts; Canberra School of Music; Primary schools in Chapman, Charnwood, Evatt, Hawker, Kaleen, Kambah, 'Neighbour', 'Urambi' and 'Village Creek', Macgregor, Wanniasa 1; High schools in Holder (stage 1), Holt (Ginninderra High), Kambah, Melba, Wanniasa; Colleges in Hawker (Belconnen College), Phillip (Woden College), Stirling (Weston Creek College), Narrabundah—conversion from High School; Telopea Park library and canteen; Canberra Technical College—Reid: (i) School of Automotive Engineering, (ii) Food school, (iii) School of Graphic Arts, (iv) General Purpose Classrooms; Ginninderra Drive state 2, 3 and 4, Gundaroo Road North stage 1, Canberra Avenue duplication—Fyshwick to Queanbeyan, Lake Ginninderra—embankment and associated works, Drakeford Drive, Erindale Drive; Belconnen Police station and Interim Remand Centre; Phillip—Motor Vehicle Testing station; Belconnen Town Centre stormwater drainage; roads and services in Crace and Group Centres at Charnwood, Kippax and Weston; Lyneham—Showground grassed paceway; Phillip—Woden District Library; Kambah—Community Health Centre; Narrabundah—ninety-six bed Nursing Home; Phillip—Health and Welfare Centre; Tidbinbilla National Fitness Camp; Barton—Trade Group Offices; Belconnen Western offices stages 1, 2 and 3; Belconnen—Cameron offices; Campbell Park offices state 2; Canberra City—A.C.T. Health Services Building; Parkes—computer building; Parkes—The Treasury computer installation; Phillip—Fishburn House; Phillip—Woden East offices stage 1; Russell Building No. 12; Tuggeranong offices state 1; Parkes—Australian National Gallery and High Court building; Parkes—National Library, Lower Ground Floor 1.

## Works and services

### Housing

Until the period following the 1939-45 War most houses and flats in the Australian Capital Territory were built and rented by the then Department of the Interior. More recently, an increasing number of houses and flats have been built by private enterprise, and as a result the proportion of houses and flats in the Australian Capital Territory occupied by tenants of the Department of the Capital Territory (formerly the Department of the Interior) has fallen from 79.7 per cent of total occupied houses and flats in 1954 to 58.3 per cent in 1961, 38.8 per cent in 1966 and 28.1 per cent in 1971. Although the bulk of rented accommodation is provided by public authorities, and this situation will continue thus in the foreseeable future, there has been a considerable increase in the proportion of home ownership in the Australian Capital Territory since 1954. The proportion of houses and flats owned or being purchased by instalments has risen from 19.5 per cent in 1954 to 29.0 per cent in 1961, 45.6 per cent in 1966 and 51.8 per cent in 1971. Home building activity in the Woden Valley and Weston Creek, south-west of the former city area and Belconnen, north-west of the former city area, has continued to expand, and at June 1971 there were 11,280 occupied dwellings in the Woden Valley and Weston Creek area, and 5,145 occupied dwellings in the Belconnen area. *See also* the chapter Housing and Building.

### Municipal services

Since its establishment, Canberra has been developed as a garden city. The development of new areas of parkland and the maintenance of existing tree and lawn areas is the responsibility of the City Parks Administration of the Department of the Capital Territory. During the six years ended 30 June 1975, some 2.2 million trees and shrubs have been propagated by the Department for 'planting out' in the city. The area of parks, gardens and sports grounds under maintenance at 30 June 1975 was about 5,100 hectares. Municipal services are also provided by the Department of the Capital Territory.

The water supply, sewerage and drainage systems in the Australian Capital Territory are under the control of the Department of Construction.

At 30 June 1975, 51,504 meters were connected to the city water supply, drawn through 31 reservoir installations, 3 of which comprises a pair of reservoirs, from 3 storages on the Cotter River with a total capacity of nearly 91,000 megalitres. In 1974-75, some 42,005 megalitres of water were consumed in Canberra serving a population of 185,000, and in addition the system supplied 2,656 megalitres to Queanbeyan, New South Wales, to an estimated population of 20,000. Treatment works at Weston Creek, Belconnen and Fyshwick dispose of Canberra's sewage. At 30 June 1975, 1,610 kilometres of sewers, 14 kilometres of rising sewerage mains, 1,717 kilometres of stormwater drains and a total length of 1,623 kilometres of water lines were laid.

## Production

See also the chapters dealing with particular subjects.

### Lands

Reference has been made in earlier issues of the Year Book to the general conditions of land tenure in the Territory and to the area of alienated and leased land, and the chapter Rural Industry of this issue contains statistical information on the subjects. (See also § 1. Canberra: Fifty Years of Development, page 123 of Year Book No. 49.)

Under the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*, no Crown lands in the Territory may be sold or disposed of for any estate in freehold except in pursuance of some contract entered into before the commencement of the Act. In general, leases of land in the city area are granted under the *City Area Leases Ordinance 1936*. In special circumstances land may be leased for purposes other than business or residential under the *Leases (Special Purposes) Ordinance 1925* and for church purposes under the *Church Lands Leases Ordinance 1924*. As considerable areas of Government owned land in the Territory are not immediately required in connection with the establishment of the City, they have been leased for agricultural or grazing purposes under the *Leases Ordinance 1918* for terms consistent with the expected growth of Canberra. Some lands in the Territory, in areas generally remote from the City, remain in private ownership under freehold title. A program of progressive acquisition of this land is being implemented.

The Australian Territory at Jervis Bay, comprising about 73 square kilometres, was acquired from New South Wales for the possible provision of port facilities in connection with the Australian Capital Territory. A portion of the area is occupied by the Royal Australian Naval College (H.M.A.S. *Creswell*) and a Royal Australian Navy airfield. Several blocks fronting Sussex Inlet have been leased for guest houses and holiday camps, etc., under the *Leases Ordinance 1918*, and an area of land in the Murray's Beach area has been set aside for possible use as an atomic power station under the control of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission. Apart from picnic and camping areas, experimental planting, afforestation and soil conservation activities, the remainder of the area is being maintained in its natural state.

### Forestry

Forestry field operations in the Australian Capital Territory began in 1915 with the planting of pines of the denuded slopes of Mount Stromlo to arrest soil erosion and improve visual quality of the landscape. In 1926 a program for development of commercial forests was approved following a comprehensive review of the Territory's potential for forest development. Major reviews of this program were made in 1932, 1954 and 1967, always however retaining the basic policy of systematic conservation and development. Much of the better native forest has been placed under management and forestry operations including fire protection treatment have been extended to some 44,500 hectares of natural forest in the Cotter Catchment and adjacent areas. The more productive stands in these areas were harvested extensively to provide timber for Canberra's post-war expansion and were subsequently treated to promote regeneration and protect the quality of water harvested.

The policy of forest management in the Australian Capital Territory has been formulated to cater not only for commercial timber production but also to provide recreation facilities and an attractive visual environment for the national capital and to protect the water supply. These policies can be broadly summarised as follows.

- (a) Manage and develop plantations and hardwood forest area in the Australian Capital Territory and Jervis Bay for production of timber and arrange sales of all forest produce.
- (b) Initiate and maintain a variety of growth and environmental experiments to produce information for management decisions.
- (c) Develop and implement viable multiple use policies for forest areas with particular emphasis on recreation potential and facilities, quality of water harvest in catchments and conservation of the environment.

The forest authority is charged with the management of some 65,000 hectares of land in the Australian Capital Territory. Of this some 47,000 hectares carry native forest or woodland. As at 31 December 1974 the total area of coniferous plantations in the Australian Capital Territory and Jervis Bay was 14,400 hectares. Of 250 hectares at Jervis Bay the majority consists of *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine) and *Pinus elliottii* (Slash Pine). The plantations in the Australian Capital Territory consist mainly of *Pinus radiata* and *Pinus ponderosa* (Yellow Pine). Total area of *Pinus radiata* was 13,200 hectares.

In 1974-75 there was no significant commercial production of hardwood timber from the Australian Capital Territory and Jervis Bay. Currently hardwood logging is restricted to incidental production from silvicultural operations. However, the volume of softwood cut decreased to 120,344

cubic metres (130,744 cubic metres in 1973-74). The total value of this unprocessed timber unloaded at the mill (milldoor value) was \$1,635,000. This returned \$786,000 in royalties (value of unprocessed timber at stump).

#### Agricultural, pastoral and secondary industries

During 1973-74 the production of the more important items of the agricultural and pastoral industry was: wheat 355 tonnes; wool 539,000 kg; whole milk 2,841,000 litres; meat (carcass weight), fresh 7,674 tonnes. The numbers of livestock depastured at 31 March 1974 were: cattle 19,049; sheep 125,800; pigs 43.

As in the Northern Territory, the secondary industries established in the Australian Capital Territory are largely the service industries associated with the growth of the Territory.

The following table shows preliminary results of the Manufacturing Censuses taken in respect of the years ended 30 June 1974 and 1975.

#### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS(a)

		1973-74	1974-75
Establishments operating during year . . . . .	No.	139	104
Persons employed(b) . . . . .	No.	3,704	3,678
Wages and salaries . . . . .	\$m	22.3	27.1
Turnover . . . . .	\$m	75.6	94.6
Opening stocks at 30 June . . . . .	\$m	5.5	8.9
Closing stocks at 30 June . . . . .	\$m	8.2	10.3
Purchases, transfers in and selected expenses . . . . .	\$m	36.8	46.7
Value added(c) . . . . .	\$m	41.6	49.2

(a) From 1974-75 all manufacturing establishments owned by multi-establishment enterprises and single establishment manufacturing enterprises with four or more persons employed.  
(b) Average over whole year. Includes working proprietors. (c) Sales, transfers out and other operating revenue plus increase (or less decrease) in the value of stocks, less purchases, transfers in and selected expenses.

#### Transport and communication

Canberra is connected with the railway system of New South Wales at Queanbeyan by a line 8 kilometres long. This line was opened for goods traffic on 25 May 1914 and for passenger traffic on 15 October 1923. Direct or linking services operate between Canberra and Sydney and Canberra and Melbourne. Two airlines provide many services daily each way on the Sydney-Canberra-Melbourne route. Regular motor-coach services link Canberra with towns in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. The total length of roads in the Territory at 30 June 1974 was: bitumen and concrete, 1,344 kilometres; gravel, 378 kilometres; other formed roads, 42 kilometres; total, 1,764 kilometres. There are four radio broadcasting stations in the Territory, 2CY and 2CN of the national broadcasting system and two commercial stations, 2CA and 2CC, and two television stations, ABC Channel 3 of the national broadcasting system and CTC Channel 7, a commercial station.

#### Social

See also the chapters Education; Public Health; and Law, Order and Public Safety.

##### Schools

The *Education Ordinance* 1937 provides for the compulsory attendance at school of children between the ages of six and fifteen years. At the beginning of 1974 the Commonwealth Department of Education assumed complete responsibility for the operation of Australian Capital Territory government schools taking over the areas of staff and curriculum previously carried out by the New South Wales Department of Education. The actual running of the schools is being controlled by an Interim A.C.T. Schools Authority, representative of teachers, parents and the community, with the Department retaining legal responsibility until the Authority attains permanent status. There were approximately 2,500 teachers in the Australian Capital Territory at February 1976, an increase of 200 over 1975.

The Interim A.C.T. Schools Authority has established the A.C.T. Schools Accrediting Agency which accredits courses and administers student assessment procedures for years 11 and 12. These procedures will replace the New South Wales Higher Schools Certificate examination from the end of 1976.

In February 1976 there were 15 government high schools in the Australian Capital Territory and 4 secondary colleges, which commenced operations in 1976. Secondary colleges will cater for years 11 and 12 and high schools for years 7 to 10. Secondary students enrolled numbered 12,796.

Sixty-two schools provide courses at infants and primary levels, 3 of these being in rural districts and 1 in the Jervis Bay area. The number of pupils enrolled in primary grades of government schools at February 1976 was 22,875.

Hartley Street School for physically handicapped children is located at Turner Primary School. It incorporates a pre-school section. Special units for deaf children are situated at Ainslie and Mawson Primary schools and Telopea Park High School.

Blind children attend Turner Primary School and partially sighted children enrol in the home school and are provided with special equipment by the Interim A.C.T. Schools Authority. Classes for mildly intellectually handicapped children are provided at Ainslie, Curtin South and Scullin Primary Schools, Lyneham High School and the Woden School. Three special schools, incorporating pre-school sections, serve the needs of moderately and some severe intellectually handicapped children. Nine primary schools cater for children of junior primary age who are unable to adjust to a normal class situation. One of these classes specialises in the care of children with severe language and communication disorders. Two reading centres operate, at Yarralumla and North Ainslie Primary Schools. Special English classes for migrant children are available at fifteen primary schools, four high schools and one secondary college. A number of physically and mildly intellectually handicapped and partial hearing children are being integrated into neighbourhood schools. Educational guidance services are provided by the Education Clinic and through counselling staff.

The 66 pre-schools including 2 in the Jervis Bay area and a mobile unit which visits outlying areas of the Australian Capital Territory provide pre-school facilities for approximately 5,000 children between the ages of 3 and 5 years. Provision is made at all pre-schools for the additional enrolment of children who have minimal problems, such as speech, behavioural and family problems. Five new primary and pre-schools were opened in 1975, at Charnwood, Chapman, Village Creek, 'Mount Neighbour', and 'Urambi', and at Giralang and Hawker in 1976. A pre-school at Wanniasa is scheduled to open in late 1976. Holder High School was opened in 1975, while Kambah and Melba High Schools opened in 1976.

At February 1976 there were 26 non-government schools in Canberra including 8 secondary schools. At the same date 7,176 pupils were enrolled in the primary grades of non-government schools and 5,539 pupils were enrolled in the secondary forms of non-government schools.

#### Other educational institutions

The Interim A.C.T. Technical and Further Education Authority was established in September 1975 to administer technical and further education in the A.C.T. The New South Wales Department of Technical and Further Education is however continuing to provide educational services for Canberra Technical College and the Canberra School of Art.

*The Canberra Technical College* provides trade, post-trade, certificate, and craft and leisure-type courses at the main campus and several annexes. At April 1976, 21 schools of study catered for 10,237 students in 172 courses.

*The Canberra School of Art* became a separate institution under the control of the Interim A.C.T. TAFE (Technical and Further Education) Authority in 1976. It offers diploma and certificate studies as well as non-vocational art and ceramic courses.

*The Canberra School of Music* is administered by the Commonwealth Department of Education and provides a four year full-time course and individual study in a range of instruments and voice. In March 1976 enrolments totalled 1,094. A new school to cater for between 1,000 and 1,200 students has been occupied in 1976.

*The Canberra College of Advanced Education* is administered by a Governing Council constituted under an Act of Parliament and offers courses in 6 schools—Administrative Studies, Applied Science, Liberal Studies, Teacher Education, Information Sciences and Environmental Design. Courses have a professional or vocational orientation and lead to undergraduate degrees, associate and graduate diplomas and a degree of Master of Education. An enrolment of 5,500 students is expected by the end of 1976.

*The Australian National University* consists of a School of General Studies and an Institute of Advanced Studies.

The School of General Studies is composed of Faculties of Arts, Asian Studies, Economics, Law and Science. It carries out both undergraduate and post-graduate training and research.

The Institute of Advanced Studies is a centre for research and training in research. It includes the John Curtin School of Medical Research and Research Schools of Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Pacific Studies, Chemistry, Biological Sciences and Earth Sciences.

The University has established the following centres: Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Humanities Research Centre, North Australia Research Unit (based in Darwin), Survey Research Centre, Centre for Continuing Education, Computer Centre, Office for Research in Academic Methods, and the National Health and Medical Research Council Social Psychiatry Research Unit.

#### **Continuing education**

*The Centre for Continuing Education*, which is run by the Australian National University, is intended to foster the 'learning society' by enriching the contacts between the university and the community to their mutual advantage. The Centre offers a wide range of courses in the natural and social sciences and the humanities.

*The Canberra Evening College* is a continuing education service of the Interim A.C.T. Schools Authority and provides courses leading to the New South Wales Higher School Certificate and the Public Service Qualifying Examinations. The College also offers a variety of craft and cultural courses.

*The Canberra Technical College* offers courses in various forms of arts and crafts, including home crafts, shorthand and typing and several unit courses in Home Science.

#### **Adult migrant education**

Free part-time day and evening classes in English are being conducted in various primary and high schools throughout Canberra and Queanbeyan. The former Narrabundah Infants School is being used as the Migrant Education Centre for the 1976 and future programs. An innovation during 1975 was a special English class at the Woden Hospital Rehabilitation Centre for migrants who had been injured in industrial and other accidents.

Accelerated English tuition on a full-time basis of 300 hours over ten weeks is available to permanent residents and *bona fide* immigrants to Australia. Selection for these courses is made by the Department of Education on the basis of economic need.

Migrants can also apply to learn English by correspondence if this is more convenient. Home tutor kits are available from the Good Neighbour Council for individual tuition in private homes.

#### **Apprenticeship training**

At 30 June 1975, 1,840 apprentices were in training in the 72 declared apprenticeship trades in the Australian Capital Territory. Apprentices were employed by 775 approved employers of which 111 were new employers. During 1974-75 there were 1,052 new applications for apprenticeship. Seven hundred and twenty-eight new indentures were registered, representing an increase of 23.4 per cent in new indentures on 1973-74 totals. In this period 279 apprenticeships were completed and 212 cancelled. Trade courses at the Canberra Technical College are supplemented, where required, by remedial classes in Mathematics and English.

#### **Health**

Canberra Hospital and Woden Valley Hospital serve the population of Canberra and the surrounding region. At 30 June 1974, Canberra Hospital had 581 beds, a visiting medical staff of 196, a salaried medical staff of 68 and a nursing staff of 866. At 30 June 1974 Woden Valley Hospital had 304 beds, a salaried medical staff of 45 and a nursing staff of 362. The hospital will become fully operational in stages, eventually having 600 beds.

During 1974 another two community health centres opened in Canberra. A centre in Kambah serving the people of the Tuggeranong area was opened in August and another centre in the Canberra City area was opened in March.

The five community health centres operating in Canberra during 1974 offered primary care provided by health worker teams which may include doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, physiotherapists, infant welfare sisters, dentists and pharmacists.

#### **Law, order and public safety**

The Australian Capital Territory has a Supreme Court and a Court of Petty Sessions. The Territory is policed by the Australian Capital Territory Police Force which at 30 November 1975, had an authorised numerical strength of 570 officers and men of various ranks. The distribution is

Commissioner (1), Deputy Commissioner (1), Superintendent (5), Senior Inspector (1), Inspector First Class (3), Inspector Second Class (14), Sergeant First Class (17), Sergeant Second Class (20), Sergeant Third Class (53), Senior Constable (52), Constable First Class (80) and Constable (323). The Force is divided into two General Duties Divisions, a Criminal Investigation Division, a Management Services Division, a Recruitment and Training Division, a Traffic Division, a Legal Division and a Community Affairs and Press Liaison Division. These in turn are divided into a number of Sections and Squads including Scientific, Breath Analysis, Fraud, Licensing, Criminal and Traffic Adjudication, Water Police, Accident Investigation, Jervis Bay, Police Youth and Citizens' Club, Rural Patrol, Search and Rescue, Underwater Recovery, Armed Offenders and Anti-Hi-jacking, Drugs, Emergency Mobile Communications, Safety Education, Process Serving, Highway Patrol, Motor Cyclists, Driver Training, Amphoter, Motor Squad, Fingerprints, Information, Gazette and Operations Room. At present the Force operates from Police Stations at Civic Centre (Headquarters), Woden Town Centre and Jervis Bay with Water Police Headquarters at Yarralumla Bay. A Station will be established at Belconnen Town Centre in 1976.

### Finance

In the following table identifiable receipts and outlay relating to the Australian Capital Territory have been classified in a National Accounts form. The table covers transactions of the Commonwealth Government in respect of the Australian Capital Territory in the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the following trust funds: Australian Capital Territory Forestry, Australian Capital Territory Housing, Australian Capital Territory Transport and Australian Capital Territory Suspense. In addition, details of the financial transactions of the following public corporations are also covered: Australian Capital Territory Electricity Authority, Commonwealth Brickworks, National Capital Development Commission, the Canberra Theatre Trust, and the Canberra College of Advanced Education. Revenue derived by the Commonwealth Government from income taxes, sales tax, etc. levied in the Australian Capital Territory and outlay on items of a national character such as defence, civil aviation, railways, etc., and payments to residents from the National Welfare Fund are not included.

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY: RECEIPTS AND OUTLAY**  
(S'000)

	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
<b>Taxation—</b>					
Rates on land . . . . .	1,383	4,362	5,166	6,134	7,135
Liquor . . . . .	340	387	458	589	710
Vehicle registration fees . . . . .	937	1,090	1,236	1,818	2,751
Payroll tax . . . . .	..	1,974	3,136	4,922	10,318
Stamp duties . . . . .	2,475	2,561	3,589	3,995	3,433
Other taxes, fees, fines, etc. . . . .	258	318	1,046	1,283	1,353
Interest, rent, etc. . . . .	7,208	7,689	11,904	13,728	13,463
Income from public enterprises . . . . .	1,696	3,048	3,351	2,485	905
Net sale of public corporation securities . . . . .	588	432	- 38	-102	-214
Other receipts . . . . .	2,342	2,219	653	1,018	643
Net charge to Commonwealth Government budget . . . . .	84,430	91,577	97,630	166,576	261,909
<b>Total receipts . . . . .</b>	<b>101,658</b>	<b>115,658</b>	<b>128,131</b>	<b>202,446</b>	<b>302,406</b>
<b>OUTLAY</b>					
<b>Final consumption expenditure—</b>					
Law, order and public safety . . . . .	3,244	4,671	6,083	7,390	10,421
Education . . . . .	13,352	15,828	22,022	32,026	49,021
Health, social security and welfare . . . . .	6,514	7,743	9,453	15,948	23,853
Other . . . . .	19,680	19,575	30,202	29,035	43,042
<b>Expenditure on new fixed assets and stocks—</b>					
Education . . . . .	8,682	9,952	10,041	15,385	22,110
Health, social security and welfare . . . . .	5,174	8,359	8,344	4,935	11,004
Housing . . . . .	-1,058	-6,151	-8,392	-4,344	8,029
Community and regional development . . . . .	13,016	16,946	19,312	25,668	36,726
Protection of the environment . . . . .	1,064	2,545	4,889	8,198	17,301
Recreation and culture . . . . .	1,955	1,169	1,768	3,630	4,850
Electricity, gas and water . . . . .	3,647	3,945	3,415	5,718	5,648
Roads . . . . .	7,894	5,511	7,775	9,432	10,264
Other . . . . .	14,003	13,391	23,295	23,417	28,602
Net purchase of existing assets . . . . .	-15,466	-15,500	-38,467	-4,935	-5,486
Interest paid . . . . .	498	558	634	587	664
Cash benefits . . . . .	62	60	64	24	19
Subsidies . . . . .	26	28	38	67	120
Net advances for housing . . . . .	18,435	26,053	26,601	29,076	29,591
Grants for private capital purposes . . . . .	936	976	1,054	1,189	6,627
<b>Total outlay . . . . .</b>	<b>101,658</b>	<b>115,658</b>	<b>128,131</b>	<b>202,446</b>	<b>302,406</b>

## NORFOLK ISLAND

### General description

Norfolk Island, discovered by Captain Cook in 1774, is situated in latitude 29° 03' S., longitude 167° 57' E. approximately. Its total area is approximately 36 square kilometres, the island being about 8 kilometres long and 5 kilometres wide. It is 1,677 kilometres from Sydney and 1,069 kilometres from Auckland. The length of the coast line is 32 kilometres, and its form that of an irregular ellipse. Except for a portion on the south side and the landing place at Cascade on the northern side, almost inaccessible cliffs rise from the water's edge. The climate is equable, the average daily maximum temperature varying between 18°C and 26°C. The average annual rainfall is 1,372 millimetres. The resident population is about 1,900.

The island served as a penal station from 1788 to 1813 and from 1825 to 1855. In 1856, 194 descendants of the *Bounty* mutineers were transferred there from Pitcairn Island.

### Administration

In 1856 the island was created a distinct and separate settlement under the jurisdiction of the Governor of New South Wales. In 1897 it was made a dependency under the Governor of that Colony, and finally, by the passage of the *Norfolk Island Act 1913*, became a Territory of Australia. It is controlled by the Minister for Administrative Services through an Administrator. The Norfolk Island Council was established pursuant to the *Norfolk Island Act 1957* and is constituted in accordance with the provisions of the *Norfolk Island Council Ordinance 1960*. The Council may consider and tender advice to the Administrator on any matter affecting the peace, order and good government of Norfolk Island, and must be consulted on certain legislative and financial matters. The Council comprises the Administrator as *ex officio* chairman and voting member and eight members elected biennially.

### Economic activity

The major economic activity of the island is tourism. Primary production is not fully adequate for local needs and foodstuffs are imported from New Zealand and Australia, mainly for the tourist trade.

*Primary industries.* The soil on the island is particularly fertile, the climate equable and the rainfall fairly evenly distributed except for a pronounced dry period in November. This enables a wide range of temperate and semi-tropical products to be cultivated. However, the island's comparative isolation presents trading difficulties, and there is only very limited production of export crops.

Fish abound off the island. In the past a number of ventures have been formed to exploit this resource, but they have been short-lived, mainly because of the lack of a sheltered harbour. A modern whaling station was started on the island in 1955, and production commenced during the second half of 1956. Owing to a marked scarcity of whales after 1961, however, the station was closed down.

An active forestry program is being carried out to increase the resources of Norfolk Island pine and to introduce suitable types of eucalypts.

*Tourists.* Regular sea and air services to the island are available for those who seek a quiet holiday in surroundings of beauty and historic interest. There are at present, apart from flats and unlicensed guest houses, hotels and licensed guest houses, and further accommodation is being built to meet the steadily increasing number of visitors.

*Employment.* A large proportion of the population derives its income from various aspects of the tourist industry including the operation of hotels and duty-free stores. The Commonwealth Government provides services through staff from the Departments of Transport and Science (Bureau of Meteorology) and teachers are seconded by the N.S.W. State Education Department. A number of clerical and other positions are available to islanders in the Norfolk Island Administration. Very few people rely for their income entirely on agricultural pursuits.

### Trade, transport and communication

Imports to Norfolk Island since the 1939-45 War have risen from \$65,000 in 1945-46 to \$6.2 million in 1974-75. The major proportion (\$3 million) in 1974-75 came from Australia and the Pacific Islands while New Zealand supplied \$0.7 million. Exports in 1974-75 amounted to \$0.6 million. Exports to Australia and the Pacific Islands, the principal market, amounted to \$0.4 million, while exports to New Zealand amounted to \$140,000. No duties are chargeable on goods imported into Australia from Norfolk Island if the goods are produced or manufactured in Norfolk Island and shipped direct to Australia, and not goods which if manufactured or produced in Australia would be subject to excise duty.

Three shipping companies operate four services to Norfolk Island at approximately monthly intervals linking the Island with Australia, New Zealand and other islands in the South Pacific area.

A passenger and air freight service between Sydney and Norfolk Island is operated by Qantas Airways Ltd three times a week, and more frequently in peak periods. Air New Zealand Limited provides a service three times a week to the Island from Auckland.

There are approximately 80 kilometres of motor roads on the island. A substantial section of the population possesses private motor cars. Hire cars, taxis and scooters are available.

The island has an automatic telephone service and a radio telephone link with Sydney. A local broadcasting service is operated by the Administration.



**Education**

Education is free and compulsory between the ages of 6 and 15 years. The school, which is conducted for the Administration by the New South Wales Department of Education, conforms to the Australian standard of public education, ranging from kindergarten to the School Certificate (Fourth Form) examination. The number of scholars enrolled at 30 June 1975 was 308.

Some bursaries, subject to a means test, are available for pupils who wish to attend a mainland school either to continue their studies beyond the School Certificate level or undertake high school courses not available on the Island. A limited number of trainee scholarships are available for pupils who have left school and wish to undertake apprenticeship or similar training away from the Island.

**Judiciary**

The judicial system of Norfolk Island consists of a Supreme Court and a Court of Petty Sessions. The Supreme Court is the highest judicial authority in the Territory and is a superior court of record with original criminal and civil jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of this Court is exercised by one judge sitting in Court or, to the extent and in the cases provided by or under ordinance, sitting in Chambers. The jurisdiction of the Court of Petty Sessions is exercised by the Chief Magistrate or any three magistrates other than the Chief Magistrate.

**Finance**

Since Norfolk Island became a territory of the Commonwealth Government in 1913 the revenue of the territory has been supplemented by annual grants from the Commonwealth Government as internal revenue alone has not been sufficient to meet the cost of public works and services. The principal items of revenue and expenditure in recent years were as follows.

**NORFOLK ISLAND: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE**  
(\$'000)

	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
<b>REVENUE</b>					
Government grant . . . . .	66	66	120	120	126
Customs duty . . . . .	146	158	180	319	410
Liquor profit . . . . .	69	82	107	121	149
Company fees . . . . .	51	89	164	145	198
Sale of stamps . . . . .	234	226	107	175	348
Vehicle registration and licence fees . . . . .	19	22	23	42	43
Government advance (repayable) . . . . .	..	..	90	..	..
All other . . . . .	86	106	83	115	134
<b>Total revenue . . . . .</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>749</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>1,408</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Administration . . . . .	166	183	204	233	240
Education services . . . . .	99	44	126	165	146
Health and welfare services . . . . .	64	79	91	85	98
Repairs and maintenance . . . . .	136	176	132	149	211
Postal services . . . . .	122	75	58	108	150
Capital works and services . . . . .	142	154	197	63	128
Miscellaneous services . . . . .	31	30	30	32	104
<b>Total expenditure . . . . .</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>1,077</b>

## HEARD ISLAND AND McDONALD ISLANDS

These islands, about 4,100 kilometres south-west of Fremantle, were transferred from the United Kingdom to Australia as from 26 December 1947. The laws of the Australian Capital Territory were declared to be in force in the Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands by the *Heard and McDonald Islands Act* 1953. In 1968, the responsibility for the administration of this Act was transferred from the Minister for External Affairs to the Minister for Supply, and in 1972 the responsibility was transferred to the Minister for Science.

In December 1947 an Australian scientific station was established on Heard Island, and meteorological investigations were conducted until the station was closed in March 1955 following the establishment of Mawson station on the Antarctic mainland. Australian expeditions have since visited the island from time to time. Heard Island is about 43 kilometres long and 20 kilometres wide. The McDonald Islands are 43 kilometres to the west of Heard Island. They are small, rocky and precipitous. The first known landing on McDonald Island, the largest of the group of the same name, took place on 27 January 1971 when two members of the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) paid a short visit on their way to the Heard Island station.

## AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC TERRITORY

An Imperial Order in Council of 7 February 1933 placed under Australian authority all the islands and territories other than Terre Adélie situated south of 60° S latitude and lying between 160° E longitude and 45° E longitude. The Order came into force with a Proclamation issued by the Governor-General on 24 August 1936 after the passage of the *Australian Antarctic Territory Acceptance Act* 1933. The boundaries of Terre Adélie were definitively fixed by a French Decree of 1 April 1938 as the islands and territories south of 60° S latitude lying between 136° E longitude and 142° E longitude. The *Australian Antarctic Territory Act* 1954 declared that the laws in force in the Australian Capital Territory, are so far as they are applicable and are not inconsistent with any ordinance made under the Act, in force in the Australian Antarctic Territory. In 1968, responsibility for the administration of this Act was transferred from the Minister for External Affairs to the Minister for Supply, and in 1972 the responsibility was transferred to the Minister for Science.

On 13 February 1954 the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE) established a station on MacRobertson Land at latitude 67° 36' S and longitude 62° 53' E. The station was named Mawson in honour of the late Sir Douglas Mawson and was the first permanent Australian station to be set up on the Antarctic continent. Meteorological and other scientific research is conducted at Mawson, which is a centre for coastal and inland survey expeditions.

A second Australian scientific research station was established on the coast of Princess Elizabeth Land on 13 January 1957 at latitude 68° 35' S and longitude 77° 58' E. The station was named in honour of the late Captain John King Davis, second-in-command of two of Mawson's expeditions and master of several famous Antarctic ships. The station was temporarily closed on 25 January 1965 and re-opened on 15 February 1969. On 4 February 1959 the Australian Government accepted from the United States Government custody of Wilkes station, which was established by the United States on 16 January 1957 on Vincennes Bay at latitude 66° 15' S and longitude 110° 32' E. The station was named in honour of Lieutenant Charles Wilkes who commanded the 1838-42 United States expedition to the area. The station was closed on 19 February 1969 when activities were transferred to Casey station built about 2 kilometres south of Wilkes. Casey station, which was opened on 19 February 1969, was named in honour of Baron Casey, former Governor-General of Australia, in recognition of this long association with Australia's Antarctic effort.

On 1 December 1959 Australia signed the Antarctic Treaty with Argentina, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Netherlands and Romania have subsequently acceded to the Treaty. The Treaty reserves the Antarctic area south of 60° S latitude for peaceful purposes, provides for international co-operation in scientific investigation and research, and preserves, for the duration of the Treaty, the *status quo* with regard to territorial sovereignty, rights and claims. The Treaty entered into force on 23 June 1961. Since then the Antarctic Treaty powers have held several consultative meetings under the Treaty, the first at Canberra in July 1961.

## COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS

### General description

The Cocos (Keeling) Islands, two separate atolls comprising some twenty-seven small coral islands with a total area of about 14 square kilometres, are situated in the Indian Ocean in latitude 12° 05' S and longitude 96° 53' E. They lie some 2,750 kilometres north-west of Perth and 3,700 kilometres almost due west of Darwin.

The main islands of the Territory are West Island, the largest, about 10 kilometres long, on which are the airport, the Administration and the community of mainland recruited employees; Home Island, where the headquarters of the Clunies-Ross Estate and Cocos Malay community are located; Direction Island; South Island; and Horsburgh Island, North Keeling Island, which forms part of the Territory, lies about 24 kilometres to the north of the group and has no inhabitants.

The main atoll is low-lying, flat, and thickly covered by coconut palms, and surrounds a lagoon which has an anchorage in the northern part but which is extremely difficult for navigation.

The climate is equable and pleasant, usually being under the influence of the south-east trade winds for about three-quarters of the year. However, the winds vary at times, and meteorological reports from the Territory are particularly valuable for those engaged in forecasting for the eastern Indian Ocean. The temperature varies between 21°C and 32°C, and the average yearly rainfall is about 2,513 mm. There are occasional violent storms. The estimated population at 30 June 1975 was 604.

#### History and administration

Summarised particulars of the discovery of the islands and their history up to 1946, when they became a dependency of the Colony of Singapore, are given in Year Book No. 51, page 140, and in earlier issues. On 23 November 1955 the Cocos Islands ceased to form part of the Colony of Singapore and were placed under the authority of Australia. The transfer was effected by an Order in Council made by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second under the Imperial Act entitled the Cocos Islands Act 1955 and by the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955* of the Commonwealth Parliament whereby the islands were declared to be accepted by Australia as a Territory to be known as the Territory of Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

Responsibility for the administration of the Territory rests with the Minister for Administrative Services. An Administrator was appointed to administer the Territory on behalf of Australia on 23 July 1975 under the *Cocos Administration Ordinance*. This Ordinance provides for an upgrading of the level of Government representation in the Territory. Until 23 July 1975, an official Representative, appointed by the Minister under the then *Official Representative Ordinance 1955*, exercised such powers and functions in relation to the Territory as were delegated to him by the Minister under the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955* or were otherwise conferred on him under that Act or under any other law of the Territory. The laws of the Colony of Singapore which were in force in the islands immediately before the date of the transfer were, with certain exceptions, continued in force by the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955*. They may be amended or repealed by Ordinances made under the provisions of that Act which empower the Governor-General to make Ordinances for the peace, order and good government of the Territory.

#### Transport and communication

There is an airport at West Island of international standard, controlled by the Department of Administrative Services, under licence from the Department of Transport. There is a regular 3 weekly charter service routed Perth–Cocos (Keeling) Islands–Christmas Island–Perth. Under charter arrangements, a shipping service operates to the Territory at intervals of about six months. A radio teletype link with Perth is maintained by the Administration. There are local postal and telephone services, and a non-commercial broadcasting station.

### CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Christmas Island is an isolated peak situated in the Indian Ocean in latitude 10° 25' S, longitude 105° 40' E. It is approximately 360 kilometres south from Java Head at the south entrance to Sunda Strait, 1,300 kilometres from Singapore and 2,600 kilometres from Perth. Christmas Island covers an area of about 140 square kilometres. It consists of a central plateau about 150 to 250 metres above sea level with several prominent rises up to 360 metres high. The plateau descends to the sea in a series of steep slopes alternating with terraces. Sea cliffs over 200 metres high run along a considerable portion of the coastline except in a few places, the chief of which is Flying Fish Cove, where the principal settlement is located and which is also the only anchorage.

The climate is pleasant, and the prevailing winds come from the south-east to east-south-east from May to December, but from then to April (the wet season) they occasionally shift round to between north and west. The average yearly rainfall is about 2,673 mm with a marked summer incidence. The porous nature of the ground prevents the formation of pools of water, but there are several good springs which maintain an adequate supply of fresh water for the small population and the installations. The mean average temperature is about 27°C, and does not vary greatly throughout the year.

The economy of the Territory is based entirely on the mining and extraction of phosphate, but prospects for its diversification are being explored.

At 30 June 1975 the estimated population was 3,032 (2,177 males and 855 females).

### Education

From January 1975, the Government implemented in the Territory a series of new education arrangements which based the education system on an Australian curriculum. A summary of the previous arrangements are given in Year Book No. 60, page 1088, and in earlier issues.

Under the new arrangements, the Christmas Island Area School provides pre-school, primary and secondary education. The Christmas Island Technical Education Centre conducts trades and commercial courses, and also provides adult education classes and supervision of correspondence courses from the Western Australian Education Department's Technical Extension Service.

At 30 June 1975, 625 children were enrolled at the Area School and 521 students were enrolled at the Technical Education Centre.

At the end of 1975, the approved teaching staff establishments were 52 at the Area School and 6 at the Technical Education Centre.

### History and administration

Summarised particulars of the history of Christmas Island up to its administration by the United Kingdom as a separate Crown Colony from 1 January 1958, pending transfer to Australia, are given in Year Book No. 51, page 141, and in earlier issues. On 1 October 1958 the island was transferred to Australia by the *Christmas Island Act* 1958 and an Official Representative was appointed to administer the Territory. In 1968 an Administrator was appointed, replacing the Official Representative and upgrading the level of Government representation. Responsibility for the administration and government of the Territory rests with the Minister for Administrative Services, and the Administrator manages day to day affairs in the Territory under delegation from the Minister. The laws which were in force on the island at 30 September 1958 were continued as the laws of the Territory after its transfer to Australia. They may be amended or repealed by Ordinances or by laws made under Ordinances of the Territory.

### Phosphate deposits

The only commercial activity carried out is the mining of phosphate. The British Phosphate Commissioners act as managing agents for the Christmas Island Phosphate Commission. Phosphate is mined at several locations on the Island. During 1974-75, 1,411,002 tonnes of phosphate were exported to Australia and New Zealand. In addition 364 tonnes of phosphate dust were exported to South-East Asia and 1,804 tonnes went to Australia.

### Transport and communication

Transport to and from the island is maintained by vessels operated under charter by the British Phosphate Commissioners as managing agents for the Christmas Island Phosphate Commission. One vessel makes regular trips between Christmas Island and Singapore-Malaysian ports, and other vessels carry phosphate to Australian ports and New Zealand.

A post office is staffed and operated by the Administration. The British Phosphate Commissioners operate an internal telephone system. A radio station is used for messages via Perth and Singapore and for communication with ships at sea. A limited power broadcasting station, VLU 2, also operates.

Regular air charter flights commenced in 1974. The charter operates every 3 weeks from Perth via the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. Charter flights also operate approximately every two weeks alternatively from Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

## CORAL SEA ISLANDS

The Coral Sea Islands were declared to be a Territory of Australia by the *Coral Sea Islands Act* 1969 which was slightly amended in 1973. The scattered reefs and islands, often little more than sandbanks, spread over a sea area of 1 million square kilometres with only a few square kilometres of actual land area, between the Great Barrier Reef, latitude 12°S and longitude 157° 10' E. The Territory which is administered by the Minister for Administrative Services, has no permanent inhabitants. There is a manned weather station on Willis Island, some 500 kilometres east of Cairns and a number of unmanned facilities on various other islands in the Territory.

